THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) According to Andhra Pradesh construction of Babli Barrage by Maharashtra on Godavari will reduce the inflow to an extent of 4.05 TMC in Sri Ram Sagar Project.

(b) and (c) An interstate meeting at the level of Minister of Water Resources and Chief Ministers of States was convened on 4.4.2006 in which following decisions were taken:—

(i) A Technical Committee headed Chairman or by a senior officer of Central Water Commission and consisting of representatives of the States shall go into the details of various issues involved in Babli Barrage project. The Technical Committee shall submit a report as early as possible but not later than 20th May, 2006.

(ii) Till the Technical Committee submits its report, the status quo in respect of activities of the Babli Barrage project shall be maintained and further construction work will not be done by the State of Maharashtra.

Displacement of tribals due to Polavaram project

4097. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any request to look into the issue of tribals displacement due to the large irrigation projects particularly to Polavaram Project; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to address the concerns of tribals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has received proposal for clearance of Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) plan related with tribals of Polavaram irrigation project. The R & R plan has not been cleared. The Ministry has directed the State Government to follow the Constitutional provisions enshrined in Schedule-V and under the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 so that the interests of tribals are not adversely affected.